

**USAID/GEO**  
**Guyana Economic Opportunities**

**DRAFT REPORT**

**A PROFILE OF THE TOURISM SECTOR**

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## **Foreword**

The Guyana Office for Investment (Go-Invest) requested assistance in developing investment profiles of priority economic sectors. The Guyana Manufacturers' Association (in conjunctions with the Ministry of Tourism, Industry and Commerce) has also requested assistance in developing sector profiles as a policy tool to identify strengths, weaknesses and needed policy changes to help grow various sectors. The purpose of this report is to support the development of those profiles, by providing an initial overview of one of the sectors. This report is not intended as a definitive assessment of the tourism sector. Instead its purpose is to provide an initial overview through a review of existing reports and through preliminary discussions with those involved in the sector. Due to the timing of the exercise at the end of the GEO project, there was unfortunately not sufficient time to complete the work in developing the two profiles, one for potential investors and one for policy makers. It is hoped that this initial work will contribute to the production of the final profiles.

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## SECTOR PROFILE: THE TOURISM SECTOR

### I BACKGROUND

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Guyana's tourism potential is significant – combining rich biodiversity with unique cultures and a landscape dotted with historical sites. Furthermore, the country's strategic location in South America and as a member of the CARICOM, is an added advantage – offering the only English speaking destination on the continent. From extraordinary nature to native communities, remote ranches and city life, Guyana has the resource base to develop as an internationally competitive destination.



Guyana's tourism sector though, is not without its challenges. The sectors possibilities have been rarely articulated in a coherent and comprehensive manner in terms of its potential contribution to Guyana's development efforts. This situation has resulted in limited tourism infrastructure, skills and service orientation, and product quality.

However, in light of the country's diverse natural assets, a successful tourism sector will require complementary Land-use and Parks/Protected Areas policies – something the relevant authorities have been moving to improve. The sector currently lacks comprehensive legislative framework and associated policy from which programs in tourism standards adoption, human resource development and infrastructure can be implemented. Moreover, and unlike all destinations in the tourism business, there is very little destination marketing.

### II PHYSICAL FEATURES

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#### *Geography*

Guyana, a real tropical paradise for naturalists, is located on the north-eastern coast of South America, between latitudes 1 to 9 degrees, and longitudes 57 and 62 degrees west. It is flanked by Brazil and Venezuela on its west and northwestern borders, Suriname on the east and the Atlantic Ocean on the north.

The country's geography exercises exceptional influences on its tourism resources. Located on the northern Atlantic coast of South America, its long colonization by the British makes it culturally part of the English-speaking Caribbean. Its land area is

215,000 km<sup>2</sup> with a 435 km Atlantic coastline. The country shares the Amazon basin with eight other countries, and is widely interspersed by rivers and tributaries that flow into the Atlantic. Guyana has a direct connection with Brazil via the Lethem/Linden Highway. The road is to be improved to an all weather highway.

### *Topography*

Guyana is characterized by its many rivers, waterfalls, mountainous plateaus, tropical rainforest, vast savannahs, varied physical resources and its good climatic conditions. The topography is also part of the pre-cambrian lowland region of the Guiana shield. It has four major geographical regions: (1) a *coastal plain*, (2) a *hilly sand and clay belt area*, (3) a *highland region* and (4) the *interior savannahs*. The coastal plain, varying in width from 8 to 65 km is approximately 430 km in length and occupies about 10 percent of the country. Much of this region lies below sea level and depends upon a complex and costly drainage and irrigation infrastructure to protect the land from seawater during high tide and to drain them during periods of high rainfall



South of the coastal plain and occupying about 20% of the country is the hilly sand and clay belt combined with an area of intermediate savannahs, which occupies some 2,700 km<sup>2</sup>. Bauxite deposits and primary rainforests characterize the area. Tropical rainforest covers roughly 70% of the country and extends virtually unbroken to the southern and western borders, it is also the area of mountains, waterfalls and rivers where gold and diamond deposits can be found.

The highland region occupies 60 percent of the country and is made up of dense rainforest, while the interior savannahs are situated in the southwest and occupies about 15,540km<sup>2</sup>. This is predominantly a grassland area interspersed with trees, lakes, and rivers. Here some agriculture and cattle rearing occur.

The largest rivers of Guyana find their sources in the forested mountain regions and flow in a northerly direction, emptying into the Atlantic Ocean.

### *Climate*

Guyana has an equatorial climate, with temperature on the coastland ranging from 20<sup>0</sup>C degrees to 33.8<sup>0</sup>C with a mean temperature of 26.8<sup>0</sup>C. The interior temperature is between 18.3<sup>0</sup>C and 39.4<sup>0</sup>C with a mean temperature of 28.3<sup>0</sup>C. The coastland is cooled by the northeastly tradewind.

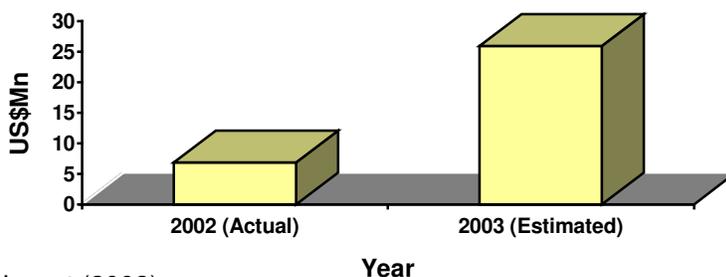
The pattern of the rainfall has led to two seasons, dry and wet. The two dry seasons occurs between February-April and July-November, and the rainy season May-June and December-January. The average rainfall is about 90 inches. Hurricanes, earthquakes or volcanoes do not affect Guyana.

### III CHARACTERISTICS AND SCOPE OF THE SECTOR

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Tourism activities are some of the most popular activities globally, bringing in substantial resources. In the decade between 1990 and 2000, tourism receipts increased from US\$269 billion to US\$476 billion (WTO, 2003). Nationally, the industry remains pivotal to Guyana's development thrust. The Guyana Office for Investment (Go-Invest) projected that the sector witnessed 277% growth in investment, totaling US\$25.92 million, in 2003 (**Figure 1**).

**Figure 1: Investment in the Sector in 2002/2003**



**Source:** Go-Invest (2003)

Guyana is endowed with an extensive range of spectacular natural features, fauna and flora, a rich historical and cultural heritage, and an interesting ethnic and cultural diversity and occupational lifestyles – activities all of which provide unique attraction and open up immense possibilities for the non “*sun, sea and sand*” type of tourism and recreational practitioners.

Sites include:

- The Kaieteur National Park, home to the world's famous Kaieteur Falls, teeming with biodiversity
- The Kanuku Mountains, the home of many rare or endangered species, inclusive of the world's famous harpy eagle
- The Iwokrama Rainforest Programme
- Shell Beach, home to four species of endangered marine turtles
- South Rupununi
- The Pakaraima Mountains
- White water tours
- Timberland tours
- Emerald Tower
- Baganara Island Resort
- Rock View Eco-tourist Resort
- Spalshmin's Fun Park

Further, the variety of cultural influences from Africa, China, Europe, and India intermingled with the Amerindian traditions, makes Guyana the unique place that it is.

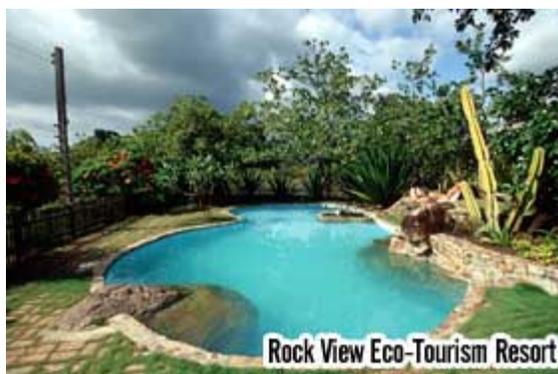


And so do specialized activities based upon the country's economic resources such as rice, sugar, bauxite production; artisanal and large scale gold mining; handicraft production, gold jewellery; rum manufacturing; the forestry industry including saw-milling and other forest operations. These are all activities of interest that could form an expanded bases of a unique tourist attraction.

Tourism in a country like Guyana can be a lasting experience, leaving an indelible impression for all the right reasons, as it provides: relaxation, freedom, pleasure, inspiration, and challenge. The scale of tourism activities provides both opportunities and challenges for the environment and the socio-economic climate. In terms of the environment, there are a number of implications for biodiversity and nature conservation. Positive and negative interactions occur across natural areas that mean that the management of tourism impacts is an issue for everyone.

The coast and inland freshwater bodies are especially attractive destinations for tourists, thus, the numerous forms of watersports such as canoeing, rowing, sail-boarding, jet skiing and water skiing are important activities. Developments such as, holiday villages and moorings, often accompanied by dredging or coastal/flood defence works, can be a significant issue in coastal areas and near freshwater sites. Tourism in rural and coastal areas raises a number of inter-related issues and embraces the following:

- an interest in the fabric of the countryside, the landscape, and the natural and cultural heritage;
- the different forms of land management: conservation, development, farming, forestry and water management;
- the different expressions of leisure, sport, recreation, tourism and the needs of people in the countryside;
- the 'quality of life' issues and benefits to society through improved physical and spiritual well-being.



The sector, which is characterized by not being an organized industry but a grouping of disparate organizations and individuals covering a myriad of activities, continues to expand as peoples' desire for leisure increases and their interest in the country grows. The major policy development during the compilation of this analysis has been the

formation of the Guyana Tourism Authority (GTA), primarily a policy making body, but also tasked with marketing Guyana as an international tourist destination.

The tourism sector, therefore, has important nature conservation links to other sectors, namely:

- Coastal management;
- Agriculture;
- Forestry;
- Transport (roads and water);
- Construction.

#### **IV SECTOR OBJECTIVES**

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The overall objectives of the sector are to provide an environment conducive to investment and contribute to the sustainable development of Guyana by earning foreign exchange and providing job opportunities, while conserving the natural environment and the multi-faceted culture of the country. In pursuance of these objectives, the sector has identified the following objectives:

- To promote an industry that makes appropriate use of Guyana's resources and takes full advantage of market trends.
- To develop the industry by placing the protection of its natural resource base as its highest priority through the use of sustainable practices.
- To establish standards and practices that are commensurate with the market that is being targeted.
- To develop an industry which ensures that its activities and operations are of benefit to as wide a representation of Guyanese as possible, but particularly the Amerindian community.

Guyana's vision for the tourism sector therefore, is one which promotes sustainable development and environmentally sustainable practices. This means that the sector aims to avoid damage to important and irreplaceable wildlife assets, minimize and compensate fully for other unavoidable effects, and make a significant contribution to the local economy. In fostering these objectives, Guyana continues to pursue opportunities for increasing public understanding of nature conservation through activities on the country's suite of natural resources, particularly the spotlight sites like the Kaieteur National Park, Shell Beach and the Kanuku Mountains, in their decision-making processes.

Additionally, the country seeks a coordinated approach through encouraging strategic alliances between the GTA and MTIC, GFC and GGMC; and where appropriate, the governing bodies, to develop and disseminate good practices, in particular the use of management techniques for minimizing damaging impacts and regulating third party activities in sensitive areas.

## V TYPES OF TOURISM

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Tourism products offered in Guyana are diverse, with each type having its special appeal to a particular type of tourist, and with its own implications for the country's infrastructure and the revenue that it can generate. The tourism product includes:

- ***Nature-based tourism:*** that places strong emphasis on the natural environment as well as the different cultures present within the country.
- ***Eco-tourism:*** Guyana is continuously marketed as a major eco-tourist resort given its comparative advantage in the touristic products that it offers, i.e., its lush rainforests, waterfalls, and biodiversity; and its location and language. Eco-tourism remains a low impact activity, providing visitors with a better understanding of the unique qualities of the places visited.
- ***Adventure tourism:*** that emphasizes the observation of faunal species in their natural habitats, mountain climbing and nature trail walks.
- ***Multi-destination tourism:*** this market is currently small but has received some exploratory visits in recent years and has the potential to grow, particularly with cruise ships, as more holiday makers appear eager to travel farther. Guyana's distance from its main markets of Europe and North America and its proximity to the Caribbean remain distinct advantages.
- ***Heritage and cultural tourism:*** Guyana has a number of sites of historical and architectural value around Georgetown, at Fort Island, Magdalenburg and Kyk-Over-Al. Amerindian, African, and Indian culture are also of potential interest to tourists. However, at the same time, it is important to protect these resources and cultures, from the potential negative impact emerging from tourism activities.



## VI THE LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

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Guyana has gone through a series of consultancies to develop a policy framework for the sector, principal amongst them is the Kelly Report,<sup>1</sup> that made broad recommendations through consultations for sector development, fiscal incentives, infrastructure development, amongst other areas that were deemed critical for the development of the sector. While government accepted these recommendations in principle, many are still to

<sup>1</sup> Kelly, E (1989) Developing Tourism for Guyana: Policy and Strategy Plan.

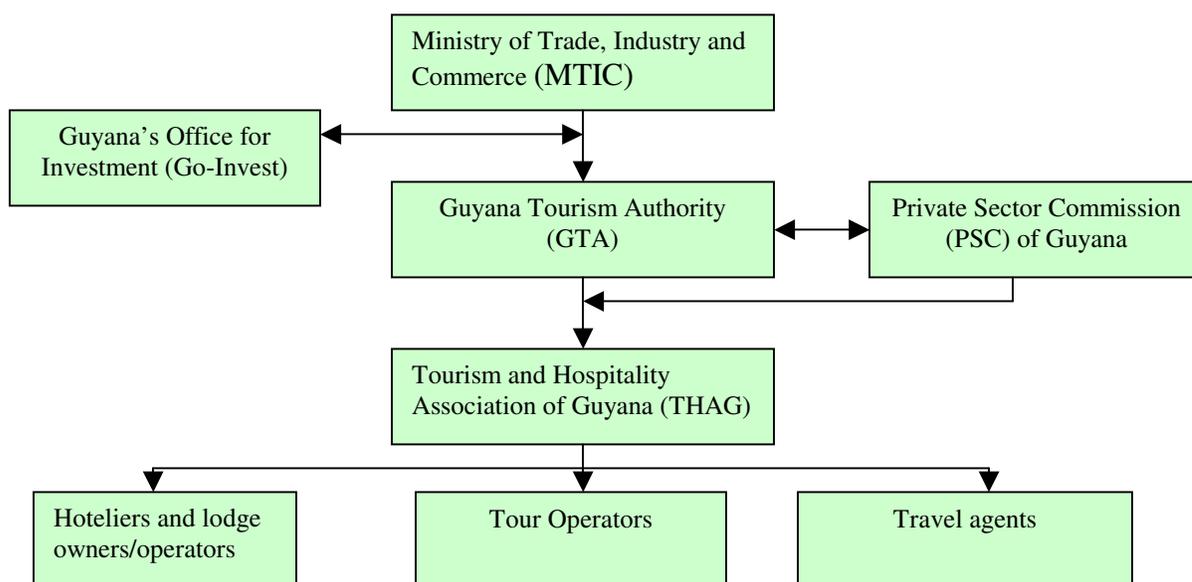
be fully translated into practice. Outstanding, for example, is a policy position with regard to the sector.

In 1998, a project commissioned by the Government of Guyana and executed by the University of Guyana produced a Tourism Policy document. The study indicated that the policy objective of the sector should be:

*“To develop a sustainable tourism industry that produces maximum economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits, while minimizing negative impacts, as part of an integrated national development strategy through the optimum use of human resources and the provision of a product of the highest quality”*

Some of the recommendations of this document have been implemented with the creation recently of the Guyana Tourism Authority (GTA).

**Figure 2: Schematic Representation of the Sector**



At the institutional level (**Figure 2**), the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Commerce are responsible for the setting of policies that govern the industry, while the GTA seeks to execute these policies via its various connecting arms and to market Guyana as a viable tourist destination.

The Guyana Office for Investment (Go-Invest) is the primary contact for exporters and investors. It liaises, on their behalf, with government entities, and among its various functions is the provision of trade information, recommending applications for concessions, and assisting to promote Guyana as a tourism destination with substantial touristic products.

The Private Sector Commission of Guyana (PSC) is the main private sector body in the country, advocating policy positions for the sector and providing a business library, computers, internet connection and printing services; and rendering consultancy services, including fact-finding studies, business plans, and market research. Further, THAG adumbrates its functions as:

- Co-operating with, and, lobbying the Government of Guyana to establish and maintain a business and investment environment which is conducive to the expansion and development of the tourism industry
- Marketing the generic tourism product of Guyana as well as the individual products of its members locally, regionally & internationally
- Working alongside the Government to establish and maintain official standards in various areas which directly impact the tourism industry

## VII SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FACTORS

The overall attraction of investing in the tourism industry is that most of the steps, which Guyana needs to take for economic development, are those required to develop tourism within the country. Some of the benefits of tourism are:

- the provision of a larger tax base;
- the generation of foreign exchange;
- the creation of a significant number of new job opportunities;
- the promotion of rural and interior development; and
- human resources development

The tourism sector is presently not a major industry in Guyana, but has enormous potential to grow. In 2002, the gross revenue of the tourism sector reached an estimated US\$20 million, approximately 3% of GDP (Statistical Bureau, 2003). The current growth rate of the sector is projected at 5% per annum. According to the National Bureau of Statistics, in 2002 visitors arrival was 104,341 up 5% from the previous year. Also, investment as a percentage of the total, has been increasing in the sector (Figures 3&4).

Figure 3: Projects Facilitated by GOINVEST in 2002 by Value of Investment

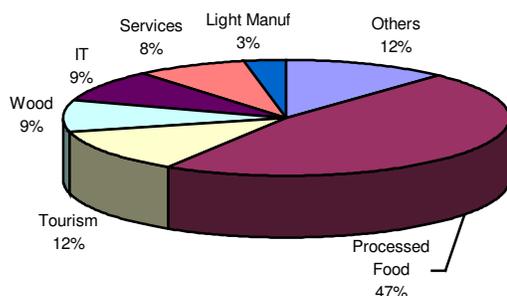
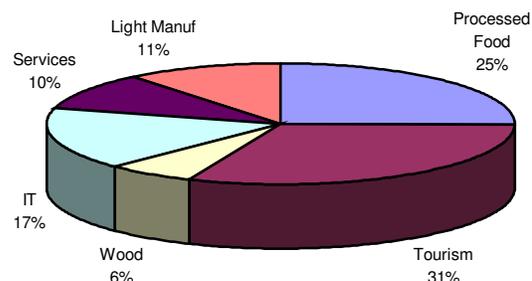


Figure 4: Number of Investment Projects Facilitated by GOINVEST (by Value)



In 2002, 10% of all foreign investment projects were in the tourism sector, with 9% of all new jobs created being in this sector (Go-Invest, 2003). 81% of enterprises are locally owned, with 90% being mostly small and medium scaled operations. Geographically, investments have been concentrated mainly in Regions # 3 & 4.

#### Summary of the Tourism Sector (2002/2003)

- ❑ 12% of the total investments were in this sector in 2002 and 31% in 2003!
- ❑ 9% of all new jobs were created in this sector in 2002
- ❑ 90% of all new projects are small and medium-scaled operations
- ❑ 10% of all foreign investment in 2002 was in this sector, with all the investors being overseas Guyanese
- ❑ 81% of the enterprises are locally owned
- ❑ 86% of all the new projects in 2002 were located in Regions 3&4, while in 2003, 75% of these projects were located in these two Regions.

Tourism is not a major political issue, although there are often attacks from the Opposition Parties that the Government is doing insufficient to promote the sector. Institutionally, the creation of the tourism authority and the move to establish a protected areas system are likely to devolution of authority to the GTA and the Guyana Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA), and the trend towards greater involvement of the regional and local government organs.

These entities in promoting the tourism for development of the rural economy and social regeneration are likely to embrace eco-tourism and recreation and be key forces for change; the need for more environmentally sustainable practices, due to the possibility of conflicts between those who love nature and those who “*love nature to death*”.

In order to minimize problems in these areas, and to encourage greater use of environmentally-friendly techniques, packages of measures are being developed including traffic management schemes. The growing emphasis on the benefits to the world’s people health from environmentally sound practices, changes in personal mobility, disposable income, leisure time, and flexible working patterns all combine to raise the demand, particularly of those persons from the developed world, for short breaks and ‘flit’ between different hobbies and leisure/recreation activities.

## VIII COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS

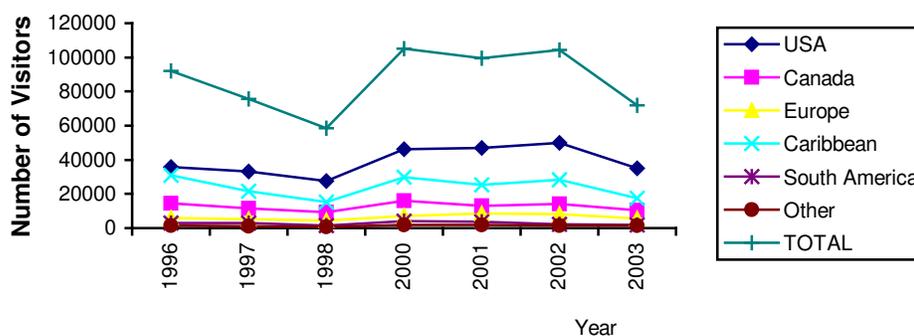
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### *Current market situation*

Development of the Guyanese tourism market is apparent, although the sector is marked by strong contrasts. The emerging banking and service sectors are supported positive changes in the tourism sector. The need for tourism activities, and the change in focus since September 11, 2001 has meant increasing visitors heading to destinations such as Guyana making this event a strong market-driving force (**Figure 5**). However, there are still fundamental obstacles to rapid improvements in this sphere. Among them are the

overall low living standards of the population, poor service delivery and skills training, and the generally poor tourism infrastructure in the country.

**Figure 5: Visitor Arrivals to Guyana 1996 - 2003**



Free market competition has created positive conditions in the tourism field. Along with the established hoteliers such as Le Meridien Pegasus and Tower Hotel, others have entered the arena (see *Appendix I*), including the Cara chain, Roraima Hotel, Maraudi, and Brandsville Apartment, some of these with foreign capital.

Currently, visitors coming to Guyana fall into two main categories: (1) business persons (2) persons visiting friends and/or relatives. These two categories, along with international volunteers, currently make up over an estimated 95% of all visitors to Guyana (NDS, 2002 & Statistical Bureau, 2003). Moreover, the total number of visitors to Guyana, a little more than 100,000 annually, is small compared to those who go to other tourist destinations, but the potential for growth is large.

Day and short tours to exotic locations is by far the most popular tourism activities, with in excess of 500,000 persons visiting in 2003 (MTIC, 2003). However, the number of tourism activities in the country is wide-ranging and increasing, with a trend towards ever more diverse and active forms of recreation. These range from formal competitive sport and informal participative events to isolated, solitary undertakings. It involves people on foot, those on bikes, in vehicles, and people who use equipment such as jet-skis and canoes. It includes activities such as, bird-watching, climbing, fossil collecting, nature trail walking, golf, and fishing. This wide spectrum of activities encompasses every feature of the country, all types of terrain, waterways and coastline throughout most of the year.



### *Future trends*

The Ministry of Tourism, Industry and Commerce (MTIC) has sought to develop the tourism product further with the formation recently of the GTA. The GTA has set about regulating and marketing Guyana's tourism products. It plans in the future to be integrally involved in research and product development.

Recently, the GTA stated its plans to commence an aggressive marketing campaign and seek to add Guyana on multi-destination trips via the Caribbean Tourism Organizations (CTO). The number of visitors to Guyana is projected to increase in the coming years based upon current trends. Furthermore, with the possibility of the cricket World Cup being hosted in Caribbean in 2007, and with moves afoot to erect a new stadium in the country, the future for other international events to be hosted in the country is a realistic possibility. Thus, the number of persons coming to the country is also expected to increase in the coming years.

## **IX MARKET ACCESS**

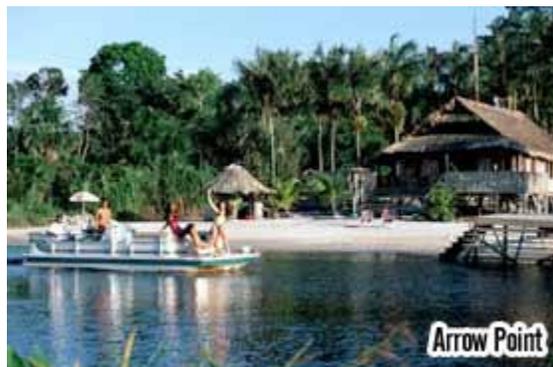
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### *Opportunities*

Investment and commercial opportunities in Guyana's tourism sector can be summarized as follows. The Guyanese tourism market is still in its early growth stage. Local and foreign investors that currently service the sector are establishing the basis for long-term participation and leadership in Guyana's tourism market.

Thus far, investment in the sector has been concentrated mainly in Regions 3 & 4. However, with the completion of the Mahdia Road, and the soon to be completed Takatu River Bridge and the Lethem/Linden Highway, access into previously inaccessible interior locations is becoming a distinct possibility, while at the same time, linking Guyana with northern Brazil.

Potential overseas developers could consider joint ventures with Guyanese firms and/or individuals to enter the Guyanese market. Despite recent interest and investment in the sector, there are still substantial areas for exploration. Further, with a Bachelor's of Arts in Tourism Studies being offered at the University of Guyana, there is now a critical mass of tourism specialists in the country, and the University continues to produce well-trained tourism specialists.



An incentive regime has been introduced that endeavours to make the industry attractive to investors. The regime compares favorably with those of other countries which are developing their tourism product (*see* Investment Section).

The creation of a Protected Area System, or at the very least, the according of special status to areas known to possess unique natural characteristics, is fundamental to the development of tourism. To this end therefore, the GEPA along with other stakeholders have been holding consultations on developing a system of protected areas in Guyana, inclusive of Shell Beach and the Kanuku Mountains, both to be used for low impact tourism activities.

### ***Obstacles***

The income which Costa Rica generates from its 2 million hectares of protected areas is as much as Guyana's GNP. While Guyana cannot expect to attain such high levels of revenue from tourism alone in the near future, it is more than feasible that the sector can, within 10 years, contribute 5 to 10 percent of the country's expanding GNP, provided that the right enabling environment is created.

Guyana will never overcome the antipathies of the environmentalists and the potential eco-tourist while it remains the only country on this continent without an effective national protected area system. The country is moving towards the establishment of a comprehensive, ecologically representative protected area network in a supportive matrix of well-managed forests and other ecosystems. A significant level of eco-tourism development is unlikely to occur unless Guyana becomes known as a country where high standards of environmental stewardship are applied to all aspects of its natural resource utilization and management.



Marketing remains the mainstay of tourism anywhere in the world. Guyana's lack of an image as a tourist destination, coupled with its failure to formulate and implement a serious public relations and marketing campaign for the country, are possibly the biggest obstacles to the development of tourism. Guyana needs to realize that marketing is a business and cannot be accomplished by those ill-equipped to so do in its embassies. In any event, the country does not have embassies and consulates in most of the major target cities. Professional representation in the markets that Guyana wishes to attract, with the necessary financial resources, is therefore vital. In addition, there is the need for adequate expenditure on advertising in all the media. Tourism is an export industry and is eligible for the benefits normally afforded to other export sectors.

In Guyana, the involvement and support of Amerindian communities and other people living in the hinterland is essential for the development of an effective park system that can significantly attract and support tourism. The level of this involvement includes planning and policy-making at the national and local levels.

The influence of foreign cultures may also impact upon communities in such a way that traditional values may be lost. Moreover, the commercialization of culture can lead to the development of a pseudo-culture and folklore that have been specially devised for tourists, the alteration of traditional crafts because of commercial pressures, and the replacement of traditional handicrafts by less authentic but more saleable souvenirs.

Policies that protect the environment and promote safety must be accompanied by policies that could attract investment. The Guyanese tourism industry is currently considered to be a high-risk business by investors and bankers because of the multiple problems which exist in the country, inclusive of the blue and white collar crimes. In addition to the financial risks normally associated with tourism itself, there are problems peculiar to Guyana: the country's democracy is considered to be fragile; the investment climate is uncertain; and Guyana is still an emerging tourist market.

Lastly, local people need to be educated on the potential impacts of receiving tourists as well as the expectations of such visitors. An informed and trained citizenry, which currently is very limited, can preclude the sustainability of this activity.

## **X KEY SHAPERS AND PLAYERS**

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At a strategic level, the key shapers include the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Commerce, the Guyana Tourism Authority, the Tourism and Hospitality Association of Guyana (THAG), and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport (MCYS); at a regional level, The National Parks Commission (NPC).

There are numerous interest groups and stakeholders reflecting the wide range of activities covered by this sector. They comprise:

- Local Government Authorities (LGA),
- Government Departments such as the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC), MTIC, and the Guyana Defence Force (GDF).
- Statutory bodies involved The Guyana Environment Protection Agency (GEPA) and the Wildlife Division of the Office of the President.

Special interest groups include:

- The North Rupununi Weavers Association
- The Guyana Heritage Society
- Conservation International
- World Wildfund Fund for Nature (Guianas)
- Guyana Marine Turtles Conservation Society (GMTCS)
- A number of environmental clubs

## **XI IMPACTS ON NATURE CONSERVATION**

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Land, air and water-based tourism activities in can have a range of impacts on biodiversity both direct and indirect, positive and negative, long-term and short-term.

Because of this, the relationship between tourism and nature conservation is not one-sided or straightforward. It is often difficult to attribute the disturbance effects to one activity where a range of activities are taking place, such as on a water body or on the coast, and it can be problematic to assess the long-term impacts of tourism activities.

Impacts are usually localized and temporary. They are dependent on many factors including topography, the kinds of species and habitats present, the time of year, weather conditions and the number of people involved and their behavior. There are complex interactions and in many situations, research and actual evidence of adverse effects is limited. Nevertheless, impacts on wildlife and natural features occur and can be widespread. They fall into two main categories - firstly, direct impacts resulting from human activity, and secondly, recreational developments which have the effect of increasing the scale of activities.

Direct impacts include disturbance to fauna, especially to ground-nesting and the trampling and erosion of vegetation and soil. Developments associated with tourism can include the loss of habitats and species through improved and enlarged facilities and infrastructure such as roads and car parks. This is particularly the case in coastal areas where land-take can result from new holiday accommodation, and associated facilities and infrastructure. Whilst such developments are generally well controlled through the planning system and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations, the cumulative effect of small-scale developments are of some concern. Car travel to recreation sites in the countryside can create localized problems through congestion, pollution and noise effects.

In an attempt to resolve potential conflicts the authorities have been seeking to enforce:

- greater use of environmental impact assessment to avert the damaging effects of tourism facilities and to regulate the spread of such facilities;
- stricter control over large-scale recreational developments through the planning system;
- management planning techniques such as dispersal, zoning time or space, traffic management, and the use of permits and fees;
- dissemination of good practice principles via the provision of information and advice, networks, liaison groups and codes of practice in order to improve the understanding of the relationship between recreation and nature conservation.

## XII INCENTIVES

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Guyana treats domestic and foreign investors alike with respect to investment incentives. Under the *Status of Aliens Act*, a non-resident of Guyana can acquire and dispose of assets, and moveable and immovable property in the same manner as a citizen of Guyana. Guyana offers investors a number of incentives that are applied across the board and available based on an investor meeting specific criteria or making certain investments. Incentives available to investors include land in industrial estates; waiver of Customs Duty and Consumption Taxes on most items of plant, machinery and equipment; accelerated depreciation of plant and equipment; a flat business tax rate; export tax allowances; research and development tax allowances; and a moderate capital gains tax. Additional incentives are available to specific targeted sectors, including garments and textiles, information technology, tourism, mining, forestry, manufacturing, fisheries and agro-processing.

In addition to specific incentive programs for certain economic sectors, investors and exporters can access preferential markets through trading arrangements with the **Caribbean Community** (CARICOM - 15 countries), **Canada** (CARIBCAN), the **United States** (CBI - the Caribbean Basin Initiative), the **European Union** (COTONOU) and through CARICOM Trade and Investment Agreements with **Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Venezuela**. Guyana is currently negotiating a bilateral trade agreement with **Brazil**. Guyana is also a signatory to the **World Trade Organization** and is an active participant in the **Free Trade Area of the Americas** process.

Guyana's Arbitration Act (1931) allows for the enforcement of international arbitration decisions. Guyana is a signatory to the Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of other States and a member of the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes. Investors from the U.S. can apply for Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) financing as authorized by the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

The current incentive regime is presented below. The Government has been actively reviewing this regime with a view to improving and making it more competitive. Investors should regard these incentives as a minimum. The Government is prepared to discuss special packages for sector driven investments.

To benefit from concessions, companies must submit a proposal to:

*Chief Executive Officer  
Guyana Office for Investment  
190 Camp & Church Streets  
Georgetown, Guyana*

The proposal should contain the following:

- A covering letter stating the specific request(s) required from the government;
- A brief description of the project;
- Target markets for products;
- Location of the project or, if necessary, location preferences for the business/project;
- Names and occupations of persons involved in the project (owner, shareholders, partners) and their contact details.
- Number of persons to be employed (skilled, semi-skilled and management);
- Anticipated date of commencement of the project;
- The level of financial investment;
- Source(s) of financing for the project (equity, loans etc.);
- A list of equipment and machinery for which duty free concessions are being sought. The list must outline the general descriptions of the machinery, the quantity to be imported and the value of each item.

#### **A. General Incentives**

The following general incentives are available across-the-board to all investors:

- Zero-rate on Customs Duty and Consumption Tax on most items of plant, machinery and equipment;
- Zero-rate on Customs Duty and Consumption Tax on raw materials used in the production of goods for export. Under a duty-drawback system, for qualifying firms and products, consumption tax paid on imported raw materials may be remitted. Note that qualifying firms must be registered with the Customs and Trade Administration of the Guyana Revenue Authority under the Consumption Tax Act.
- Unlimited loss carryover of losses from previous years;
- Accelerated depreciation on plant and equipment;
- Double taxation treaties currently exist with the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, and CARICOM countries.
- Full and unrestricted repatriation of capital, profits and dividends.

#### **B. Special Incentives**

The incentives below are special incentives that are offered above and beyond the general incentives listed above and the sectoral incentives described in Section C below.

##### *Firms Producing Non-Traditional Products for Export*

- Export Allowances for non-traditional exports to markets outside of CARICOM. The allowance is granted as a percentage of export profits, ranging from 25% to a maximum of 75%.

<b>% of Export Sales to Total Sales:</b>	<b>Export Allowance*</b>
less than 10%	0
10% - 20%	25%
21% - 30%	35%
31% - 40%	45%
41% - 50%	55%
51% - 60%	65%
more than 60%	75%

\* % of profits excluded from income tax

*Pioneering Investments*

- Tax holidays for pioneering investments; pioneering investments can either be for new products or for targeted locations. Tax holidays may be granted for a period of up to 10 years.

*Incentives for the Communities of Linden, Ituni and Kwakwani*

In addition to the incentive regime that presently obtains elsewhere in Guyana, projects in these areas are eligible for the following additional incentives:

- Waiver of Customs Duty and Consumption Tax on all imported plant, machinery, equipment and spare parts;
- For manufacturing and agricultural investments only, waiver of Customs Duty, Consumption Tax and Purchase Tax on all vehicles imported exclusively for use in the business.

**C. The Tourism Sector**

The Government is encouraging an increase in the number of hotel rooms and the upgrading of existing plant and other facilities in the tourism sector. To facilitate this growth, the Government has made available a package of incentives for which companies are eligible once in a period of five years. This comprises mainly duty-free and consumption tax concessions for basic furnishings, plant equipment and building materials. Tax concessions are limited to 50% of the value of the investment.

*Qualifying Criteria:*

To qualify for an exemption of Customs Duty and Consumption Tax, the following are required:

- The company must be registered under the Business Names (Registration) Act, Chapter 90:05.
- Submission of a project profile which includes the level of investment, expected employment generation, marketing strategy, implementation schedule and source of financing;
- An Environmental Impact Statement for the Project;
- Evidence of title to or interest in the land;
- Tax compliance, where applicable;
- National Insurance Scheme (social security) compliance (where applicable);
- An audited financial statement where applicable.

*Eligibility Requirements*

The following businesses are eligible for tourism concessions:

- An existing guest house or hotel with no less than 15 rooms;
- An existing resort development in interior locations;
- Existing tour operators and tourist facilities approved by the Ministry of Tourism or its designated authority.

The following minimum characteristics for a new investment are required:

- A guest house or hotel must be for at least 15 rooms;
- The new investment must be for a resort development in an interior location;

Resorts in the interior are exempt from paying the 10% room tax.

*The following items are eligible for consumption tax and duty free importation:*

Television and video recorders	Washing machines/dryers
Microwave ovens	Air conditioners
Refrigerators/freezers	Electric lamps
Gas and electric stoves	Beds
Dishwashers	Ceiling fans
Ice makers	Solar and electric water heating systems
Toilette equipment and fittings	Elevators
Bath tubs and fittings	Building materials

For interior locations, the following items, in addition to those above, are eligible for concessions:

Transportation equipment (4 x 4 vehicles)	Generators
Boats and engines	Communication equipment (radio sets)
Portable toilets	Life jackets
Camping equipment	Water bikes

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## ***Appendix I: Places of Interest***

### **The Bottle Bar and Restaurant**

One of Guyana's finest restaurants, located in Cara Lodge has a lovely family atmosphere in which to enjoy our Guyanese dishes or fine international cuisine. Directed at a more affluent clientele

### **El Dorado**

Consider Georgetown's premier fine dining restaurant, located in the Le Meridien Pegasus Hotel.

### **Palm Court**

An attractive bar-cum restaurant on Main Street is one of the trendiest places with excellent food, affordable prices and god atmosphere.

### **Sidewalk Café and Jazz Club**

A fashionable place for the budget traveller that becomes particularly lively late in the evening with good local cuisine

### **The Diner**

One of the best place when it comes to seafood

### **Fast Foods**

There many fast food outlet including KFC and Pizza Hut. Local fast foods: Camp Site, VIP Pizza Plus, Luciano International Snackette, N.P Fried Chicken and Salt and Pepper.

### **Kaieteur Falls**

The 400 feet wide Potaro River plunges over the Pakaraima Plateau resulting in this magnificent water falls whose width varies from 250 feet in the dry season to 400 feet in the rainy season. It has a perpendicular drop of 741 feet. Kaieteur is twice as high as Victoria Falls and almost five times as high as Niagara Falls.

### **Orinduik Falls**

The Ireng River on which this fall is located thunders over steps and terraces of solid Jasper. However, unlike the mighty Kaieteur this Fall is ideal for swimming and picnicking.

### **Potaro Gorge**

Begins at the Ayanganna Mountain Range in the North Rupununi Savannah. It extends 140 miles to the Essequibo River. Located on this river are nine waterfalls. The most notable are kaieteur and Tumatumari. A 1930 Suspension Bridge called Garraway Stream Bridge as well as Two Islands are also located on the Potaro River.

### **Essequibo River**

This river is 21 miles wide at its estuary and approximately 270 miles long. There are 365 islands located on this River. This is the largest of the three major rivers.

**Mount Roraima**

This mountain is located in Guyana, Venezuela and Brazil. Guyana's Roraima is 9,094 feet in height and was conquered in 1973.

**Shea Rock**

An unusual outcropping of igneous rock in the South Rupununi Savannah. It can easily be seen for miles and thus is a well known landmark.

**Appendix II: Tour Operators**

**Earth Tours Limited**

106 Lamaha Street Georgetown

Tel: 223-7847

Fax: 226-5340

Email: [earthtours@hotmail.com](mailto:earthtours@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.etl-gy.com](http://www.etl-gy.com)

**Evergreen Adventures**

159 Charlotte Street

Georgetown

Tel: 226-0605

Fax: 225-1171

Email: [evergreen.adventures@webworksgy.com](mailto:evergreen.adventures@webworksgy.com)

**Green Heart Tours**

36 Craig Street

Campbellville,

Georgetown.

Tel: 227-1399

Fax: 225-8219

**Hinterland Tours inc.**

76 First Avenue

Subryanville,

Georgetown

Tel : 226-4025 or 222-4132

Fax : 226-4025

Email : [hinterlander.tours@networksgy.com](mailto:hinterlander.tours@networksgy.com)

**Nature Tours**

238 bb Eccles, East Bank Demerara

Tel: 233-2454/2280

Email: [naturetours60@hotmail.com](mailto:naturetours60@hotmail.com)

**Outdoor Expedition**

307 1 Stone Avenue

Campbellville

Greater Georgetown.

Tel: 225-2315

Email: [outdoor\\_expeditionsguyana@yahoo.com](mailto:outdoor_expeditionsguyana@yahoo.com)

**Rainforest Tours**

Hotel Tower  
Main Street Georgetown  
Tel: 227-2011  
Fax: 227-5632  
Email: [rainforesttours@solutions2000.com](mailto:rainforesttours@solutions2000.com)

**Shell Beach Adventure Tours**

Le Meridien Pegasus Hotel  
Kingston Georgetown  
Tel: 225-4483/4  
Fax: 226-0532  
Email: [adventure@networksgy.com](mailto:adventure@networksgy.com)

**Torong Guyana Co. Ltd**

56 Coralita Avenue,  
Bel Air Park Georgetown.  
Tel: 225-0876  
Fax: 225-0749  
Email: [toronggy@networksgy.com](mailto:toronggy@networksgy.com)

**Wilderness Explorers**

Cara Suites Middle Street Georgetown  
Tel: 227-7698  
Fax: 226-2085  
Email: [info@wilderness-explorers.com](mailto:info@wilderness-explorers.com)

**Wonderland Tours**

158 Waterloo Street  
Georgetown  
Tel: 225-3122  
Fax: 225-9795  
Email: [rousman2002@yahoo.com](mailto:rousman2002@yahoo.com)

**Appendix III: Apartments and Hotels**

**GEORGETOWN**

**Arlington Apartments**

93 Smyth Street , Georgetown

Tel : 592-225-1059

Fax: 592-225-1059

Rooms : 7

Rates : Single US\$35, Studio US\$45, Triple US\$60

E-mail : [laterly@gy.net.gy](mailto:laterly@gy.net.gy)

**Blue Wave Apartments**

8 -9 North Road , Bourda, Georgetown

Tel : 592-226-1417-8, 227-8897

Fax : 592-226-2742

Rooms : 21

Rates: Standard US\$55, Studio US\$75,

1 Bedroom Apt US\$110, Executive Suite US\$165.

E-mail : [bluewave@networksgy.com](mailto:bluewave@networksgy.com)

All apartments fully air-conditioned, Kitchenette available, refrigerator, 24 hour security service, television & telephone.

**Brandsville Apartment**

89-90 Pike Street , Campbellville, Georgetown

Tel: 592-227-0989/226-1133/231-7000

Fax : 592-231-7001

Rooms : 6 Apts & 9 Rooms

Rates : Rooms Ranges US\$65 - US\$105, Apts US\$70

E-mail : [brandsville@gol.net.gy](mailto:brandsville@gol.net.gy)

Website : [www.brandsvilleapartments.com](http://www.brandsvilleapartments.com)

**Cara Lodge**

294 Quamina Street , Georgetown

Tel : 592-225-5301

Fax: 592-225-5310

Rooms: 12

Rack Rates: Single US\$95 Double US\$105 Triple US\$110 Single Suite US\$160 Double

Suite US\$170, Corporate Rates: Single US\$88 Double US\$95, Triple US\$100 Single

Suite US\$1145 Double Suite US\$155

E-mail: [caralodge@carahotels.com](mailto:caralodge@carahotels.com)

Website: [www.carahotels.com](http://www.carahotels.com)

All rooms fully air-conditioned, conference room to facilitate 50 persons, bar, television, complimentary newspaper, taxi service, refrigerator and Internet service.

**Cara Suites**

176 Middle Street , Georgetown

Tel : 592-226-1612

Fax: 592-226-1541

Rooms : 15

E-mail : [carasuites@carahotels.com](mailto:carasuites@carahotels.com)

Website : [www.carahotels.com](http://www.carahotels.com)

Fully air-conditioned rooms, hot & cold water, telephone, refrigerator, kitchenette, laundry, complimentary newspaper, Bar, television, taxi service, Internet service.

**Carey's Apartments**

27 Queen Street , Kitty, Georgetown

Tel: 592-226-3407

Fax: 592-225-5032

Rooms: 15

E-mail: [dawncari\\_tps\\_careys@hotmail.com](mailto:dawncari_tps_careys@hotmail.com)

**Friends Hotel & Apartments**

82 Robb Street , Lacytown, Georgetown

Tel: 592-227-2383

Fax: 592-227-0193

Rooms: 16

Rates: Standard US\$23 1-bedroom Apt US\$45 – 60

E-mail: [jwalco@solution2000.net](mailto:jwalco@solution2000.net)

Website : [www.friends.com](http://www.friends.com)

Rooms fully air-conditioned, fans, restaurant, bar, security service, television, taxi service, hot & cold water, telephone, refrigerator in apartments, kitchenette, internet service.

**Fulton Court**

310-312 Church & Irving Streets, Georgetown

Tel: 592-227-2711

Fax: 592-227-2944

Rooms: 19

E-mail: [fulton@guyana.net.gy](mailto:fulton@guyana.net.gy)

**Glow Hotel**

23 Queen Street , Kitty, Georgetown

Tel: 592-227-0863

Fax: 592-226-8705

Rooms: 23

**Grand Coastal Inn**

2 Area M Plantation, Le Ressouvenir, East Coast Demerara

Tel: 592-220-1091

Fax: 592-220-1498

Rooms: 19

Rates: Single US\$69 Double US\$89 – 119 Plus 10% Government tax on all room rates.

E-mail: [grandcoastalinn@networksgy.com](mailto:grandcoastalinn@networksgy.com)

Website: [www.grandcoastal.cjb.net](http://www.grandcoastal.cjb.net)

Air-conditioned rooms, fans, conference room to facilitate 45 persons, restaurant, bar, television, car rental service, hot & cold water, telephone, complimentary newspaper, Internet service, continental breakfast included with room rate.

**Holiday International Apartments**

143 Campbell Avenue , Campbellville, Georgetown

Tel: 592-225-8327

Fax: 592-22

Rooms: 6

Rates: Single Occupancy US\$40 Double Occupancy US\$60

All apartments fully air-conditioned, fans available also, hot & cold water, television, security service, telephone, refrigerator, laundry, kitchenette.

**Hotel Ariantze Side Walk Café & Jazz Club**

176 Middle Street , Cummingsburg, Georgetown

Tel: 592-225-4595

Fax: 592-227-0210

Rooms: 8

Rates: Single US\$55 Double US\$70 Suite US\$85

E-mail: [ariantze@networksgy.com](mailto:ariantze@networksgy.com)

Website: [www.guyanaguide.com/ariantze](http://www.guyanaguide.com/ariantze)

All rooms fully air-conditioned, conference facilities available, restaurant & bar, nightclub, taxi service, computer & Internet access, same day dry cleaning, complimentary breakfast & newspaper and disabled facility available.

**Hotel Tower**

74-75 Main Street , Georgetown

Tel: 592-227-2011

Fax: 592-226-5363

Rooms: 78

E-mail: [hoteltower@solutions2000.net](mailto:hoteltower@solutions2000.net)

Website: [www.hoteltowerguyana.com](http://www.hoteltowerguyana.com)

**La Familia Country Club**

456-458 Aubrey Barker Road, South Ruimveldt, Georgetown

Tel: 592-263-0508

Rooms: 11

**Le Meridien Pegasus**

Seawall Road, Kingston , Georgetown

Tel: 592-225-2853-9

Fax: 592-225-3703

Rooms: 130

E-mail: [guypegasus@solutions2000.net](mailto:guypegasus@solutions2000.net) or [sales.mang@solutions2000.net](mailto:sales.mang@solutions2000.net)

**M's Ville Apartments**

230 Anaida Avenue, Eccles, East Bank Demerara

Tel: 592-233-2410

Fax: 592-227-1592

Rooms: 7

**Ocean View International Hotel**

Public Road, Liliendaal, East Coast Demerara

Tel: 592-222-5429

Fax: 592-222-4722

Rooms: 51

Rates: Standard US\$87 Double US\$104 Suite US\$127

E-mail: [ovi@networksgy.com](mailto:ovi@networksgy.com)

Air-conditioned rooms, fans, conference room to facilitate 400 persons, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, television, taxi service, complimentary newspaper, laundry, security service, Internet Service.

**Palace De Leon Apartments**

60 Croal Street , Georgetown

Tel: 592-227-7019

Fax: 592-223-7328

Rooms: 6

E-mail: [11r@solutions2000.net](mailto:11r@solutions2000.net)

**Prairie International Hotel**

11 South Half Coverden, East Bank Demerara

Tel: 592-261-2260

Fax: 592-261-2259

Rooms: 14

Rates: Standard US\$65 Single US\$65-75 Double US\$80-85 Suite US\$110

E-mail: [prairie.hotel@networksgy.com](mailto:prairie.hotel@networksgy.com)

Fully air-conditioned rooms, fans, conference room to facilitate 35 persons, bar, television, hot & cold water, telephone, refrigerator, laundry, kitchenette, internet service, security service and Deck.

**Raddison Suites**

83 Laluni Street , Queenstown, Georgetown

Tel: 592-226-2145

Fax: 592-226-2145

Rooms: 15

Rates: Standard Suite US\$65 Single Suite US\$75

Double US\$85 3 Bedroom Apartment Suite US\$100

2 Bedroom Apartment Suite US\$95 All rates are inclusive of tax.

E-mail: [info@guyanahotel.com](mailto:info@guyanahotel.com)

Website: [www.guyanahotel.com](http://www.guyanahotel.com)

Fully air-conditioned Suites and Apartments, fully self contained, hot & cold water, telephone, microwave/stove top, dinette set, kitchenette, refrigerator, VCR and television.

**Royal Regency Apartments**

98 Hadfield Street , Werk-en-Rust, Georgetown

Tel: 592-225-4785

Fax: 592-226-0531

Rooms: 21

E-mail: [shivraj@mail.futurenetgy.com](mailto:shivraj@mail.futurenetgy.com)

Website: [www.shivrajs.com](http://www.shivrajs.com)

All rooms fully air-conditioned, gym, kitchenette, restaurant, bar, 24 hour security service, television, taxi service, hot & cold water, telephone, Complimentary Breakfast & Newspaper.

**Toucan Guest House**

17 Kastev, Meten-Meer-Zorg, West Coast Demerara

Tel: 592-268-2408

Rooms: 11

E-mail: [toucan\\_s@networksgy.com](mailto:toucan_s@networksgy.com)

Website: [www.geocities.com.toucanlodge/web](http://www.geocities.com.toucanlodge/web)

**TP's Apartments**

56 Pike Street , Kitty, Georgetown

Tel: 592-226-7804

Fax: 592-225-5032

Rooms: 20

E-mail: [dawncari\\_tps\\_careys@hotmail.com](mailto:dawncari_tps_careys@hotmail.com)

**Water Chris Hotel**

184 Waterloo Street, South Cummingsburg, Georgetown

Tel: 592-226-5257

Fax: 592-227-3266

Rooms: 20

Rates: Single US\$24 Double US\$32

E-mail: [waterchris@mail.com](mailto:waterchris@mail.com) [waterchris@mail.com](mailto:waterchris@mail.com)

Air-condition, fans, conference room to facilitate 25 persons, restaurant, bar, television, taxi service, hot & cold water, telephone refrigerator, internet access, security service, laundry.

**ESSEQUIBO**

**El Tropico Seaview Hotel**

22 Richmond Village, Essequibo Coast

Tel: 592-771-4349

**Hotel Purpleheart**

Lot 103 Charity, Essequibo Coast  
Tel: 592-771-5209  
Fax: 592-771-5210  
Rooms: 10

**Xenon Hotel**

190 Charity, Pameroon, Essequibo  
Tel: 592-771-4989  
Rooms: 11

**BERBICE**

**Parton Inn**

K & L #78, Springlands, Corriverton  
Tel: 592-339-2248  
Rooms: 23

**Riverton Suites**

Springlands, Corriverton  
Tel: 592-339-2292  
Rooms: 11

**Churchview Hotel**

3 Main Street , New Amsterdam  
Rooms: 25

**Deluxe Guest House**

Main Street , New Amsterdam  
Tel: 592-333-3004/6626  
Rooms: 15  
Rates: Single US\$20 Double US\$24  
E-mail: [deluxe@hotmail.com](mailto:deluxe@hotmail.com)

Ceiling fans, restaurant, bar, security service, television, car rental, taxi service, telephone, refrigerator, complimentary newspaper, typing service.

**Little Rock Hotel**

67 Vryman's Erven, New Amsterdam  
Tel: 592-333-3758  
Rooms: 25

**Park Way Hotel**

4 Main Street , New Amsterdam

**LINDEN**

**Jacs Hotel**

Tel: 592-444-6461

671 Industrial Area, Linden

Tel: 592-444-6505

Fax: 592-444-6898

Rooms: 10

Rates: Single US\$24 Double US\$37 – 45

E-mail: [starbon@hotmail.com](mailto:starbon@hotmail.com)

Air-conditioned, conference room to facilitate 20 persons, restaurant, bar, security service,

**Barrow's Restaurant & Lounge**

82 Manni Street , McKenzie

Tel: 592-444-6799

Rooms: 3

**BARTICA**

**Castello Hotel**

7 First Avenue , Bartica

Tel: 592-455-3041

Fax: 592-455-2359

Rooms: 14

**Zen's Plaza**

43 Second Avenue , Bartica

Tel: 592-455-2956

**LETHEM**

**Cacique Guest House**

Lethem

Tel: 592-772-2083

**Savannah Inn**

Lethem, Region # 9

Tel: 592-772-2035

**Takatu Guest House**

Lethem, Region # 9

Tel: 592-772-2034

Rooms: 21

E-mail: [morsha\\_j@hotmail.com](mailto:morsha_j@hotmail.com)

## RESORTS AND INTERIOR LODGES

### **Arrowpoint Resort**

Located in region # 3, Essequibo Islands/West Demerara  
c/o Roraima Airways, 101 Cummings Street , Bourda, Georgetown  
Tel: 592-225-9648  
Rooms: 4  
E-mail: [ral@roraimairways.com](mailto:ral@roraimairways.com)  
Website: [www.roraimairways.com](http://www.roraimairways.com)

### **Baganara Island Resort**

Located in region # 7, Cuyuni/ Mazaruni  
c/o Evergreen Adventures, 158 Charlotte Street , Lacytown, Georgetown  
Tel: 592-226-0605  
Rooms: 17  
E-mail: [everg@guyana.net.gy](mailto:everg@guyana.net.gy)  
Website: [baganara.com](http://baganara.com)

### **Emerald Tower Rainforest Lodge**

Located in region # 10, Upper Demerara/Berbice  
c/o Hotel Tower, 74-75 Main Street , Georgetown  
Tel: 592-227-2011  
Fax: 592-225-6021  
Rooms: 7 cabins & 1 dormitory style  
E-mail: [Hotel.Tower@solutions2000.net](mailto:Hotel.Tower@solutions2000.net)  
Website: [www.hoteltower.com](http://www.hoteltower.com)

### **Karanambu Ranch**

Located in region # 9, Upper Takatu / Upper Essequibo  
c/o Wilderness Explorers, Cara Suites, 176 Middle Street , Georgetown  
Tel: 592-227-7698  
Rooms: 6

### **Lake Mainstay Resort**

Located in region # 2, Pomeroon/Supernaam  
c/o 106 Regent Street , Bourda, Georgetown  
Tel: 592-226-2975  
Rooms: 36  
E-mail: [mail@lakemainstay.com](mailto:mail@lakemainstay.com)  
Website: [www.lakemainstay.com](http://www.lakemainstay.com)

### **Rockview Lodge**

Located in region # 9, Upper Takatu / Upper Essequibo  
c/o Evergreen Adventures, 158 Charlotte Street , Lacytown, Georgetown  
Tel: 592-226-5412

Fax: 592-225-1171

Rooms: 8

Email: [info@rockviewlodge.com](mailto:info@rockviewlodge.com)

Website: [rockviewlodge.com](http://rockviewlodge.com)

**Shanklands Rainforest Resort**

Located in region # 7, Cuyuni/ Mazaruni  
c/o Cara Suites, 176 Middle Street , Georgetown

Tel: 592-225-2678

Fax: 592-226-8907

Rooms: 10

E-mail: [reservations@shanklands.com](mailto:reservations@shanklands.com)

Website: [www.shanklands.com](http://www.shanklands.com)

**Timberhead Rainforest Resort**

Located in region # 3, Essequibo Islands/West Demerara  
c/o Le Meridian Pegasus, Seawall Road , Kingston , Georgetown

Tel: 592-225-3760

Rooms: 7

E-mail: [timberhead\\_gy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:timberhead_gy@yahoo.co.uk)

**Iwokrama Forest**

Located in Region # 9, Upper Takatu / Upper Essequibo  
c/o 77 Main Street, Kingston, Georgetown

Tel: 592-225-1504

Fax: 592-225-9199

Rooms: 5 cabins

Website: [www.iwokrama.org](http://www.iwokrama.org)